

YOUNG GIRLS RIOT.

Inmates of the Illinois State Home Break Loose.

THE MATRON THE CAUSE

Thirty-Four Juveniles Hold Full Possession of the Place.

THE POLICE CALLED UPON.

The Ringleaders Battle and Demolish the Furniture in the Room.

CHICAGO, March 10.—Riot broke loose in the Illinois State Home for Juvenile Female Offenders on Indiana avenue to-night.

Thirty-four girls ranging in age from 10 to 18 years rose in rebellion against the matron, Mrs. Dayton. Mrs. Dayton and her assistants were powerless to control their charges, and were compelled to shut themselves in rooms to escape their almost frenzied assailants.

The police were summoned and restored order, but had no easy time, as the ringleaders fought desperately. Four of the most prominent of the girls were arrested.

The troubles arose over the punishment given by Matron Dayton to Mamie Davis, 16 years of age. According to the girls, however, the uprising was due to a great dissatisfaction among the girls over their treatment in general.

It arose particularly because of a system of punishment which included imprisonment in a dark room 10 by 12 feet in size, the culprit being secured to the floor by a heavy chain and also a system of dieting in which the offender was not allowed meat and was half starved.

DOCKERY'S BIG SAYING.

The Joint Committee's Report Shows Government Economic Reductions.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—A review of the work done by the Dockery Joint Commission of Congress, created for the purpose of inquiring into and examining the status of the law organizing the executive departments, has been printed. The greater number of the recommendations of the commission so far have been put into practical operation and have been from time to time made public. The review shows that the entire cost of the commission aggregated \$41,264, while the actual annual reductions in the Government expenditures made as a result of its work amount to \$607,891.

"The reduction," the review continues, "is not for the time being only, but will continue through each of the coming years. The commission, however, feels that the expedition of public business and added security to the Government in its methods of accounting under the new systems inaugurated would have fully justified its existence, even if there had been no diminution in expenses."

A census of the departments held here at the direction of the commission discloses the fact that in the executive departments and other Government establishments at the national capital there are employed 17,999. There are 8627 in the class subject to competitive examination preliminary to appointment, and 3295 of that number entered the service after such examination, and that of the whole number employed 5610 have from one to nine relatives each in the Government service at Washington.

CHANCE FOR INVENTORS.

Italy Will Use American-Built Frame Houses, if Cheap.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—United States Consul Bruhl at Catalonia, Italy, has discovered a fine market for ready-built American frame houses, of from two to five rooms, well braced, of low price. The recent and frequent earthquakes in Sicily and Catalonia have destroyed many buildings poorly braced.

WILL REVIVE A SCANDAL.

Mrs. Glascock Proposes to Push the Proceedings for Divorce.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Mrs. Carrie M. Glascock, whose allegations concerning Senator Stewart created a sensation in Washington several months ago, announces that she will prosecute the proceedings for divorce against her husband, Glascock having withdrawn his own petition for divorce. This will reopen the old scandal and will be embarrassing for Senator Stewart and his family, who allege that the Glascock people are in conspiracy to extort money from the Senator.

MISSED THE ECLIPSE.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Preparations were made at the observatory and other places in Washington to observe the total

eclipse of the moon to-night, but owing to the foggyness of the weather and the quantity of clouds in the sky, no accurate views could be made. Even the exact time of the beginning and ending could not be learned.

GERMAN LABOR EXCHANGE.

Employer and Employee Met Through the Medium of Postoffice.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The United States Consul at Luxembourg outlines the scheme of an international labor exchange, which has proven very beneficial in that grand duchy in facilitating the employment of labor. It was instituted in 1892 and every postoffice co-operates in the transmission of offers made and applications for employment between wage-payers and wage-earners.

Offers and applications are addressed to the nearest Postmaster on special postal cards and the applications are registered. The lists are publicly posted in all post-offices, in railway stations, hotels and public houses. The postoffice assumes no responsibility in the business beyond the transmission and posting of applications and offers. The Postmasters inform an applicant by postal card when an offer of employment is received. A statement attached shows that during two years there were received through this system 1904 applications for employment and 1701 of these secured places. During the same time 3514 employees applied for help and engaged 4372 persons.

THE PERRY AT VALPARAISO.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Captain Shepherd, chief of the revenue marine service, received cable dispatches to-day stating that the revenue cutter Perry, which is en route from Newport, N. York to San Francisco, has reached Valparaiso.

DIED FROM A DOG BITE.

READING, Pa., March 10.—Mrs. Susan Dautrich, aged sixty years, who was bitten in the hand by a dog six weeks ago, died here. She showed all the horrible sufferings of a person afflicted with rabies.

SWEDENBORGIAN PHILOSOPHY.

Lecture by Rev. Higgins on That Subject Last Night.

At the First New Jerusalem Church, corner of O'Farrell and Webster streets, Rev. F. L. Higgins delivered last evening the fourth of a series of lectures on "Swedenborg," and what he has done for the world, presenting particularly the philosophic aspect of his subject.

"The province of philosophy," said the speaker, "is to expound the whence, what and why of creation, and to show the harmonious relation of the chief essentials of its different parts. We have had the theistic, idealistic and materialistic schools of philosophy, but Swedenborg presents to the world a new and entirely distinct school. He shows that theistic philosophy is true in so much as it recognizes causes back of creation, but false in declaring that something came from nothing, and that materialism errs in regarding nature and its laws as being the embodiment and sole element of the ultimate first cause of creation. Swedenborgian philosophy recognizes that divine love alone had power of creating beings capable of consciously receiving and reciprocating that love, and hence the human race began."

AMERICAN BAND CONCERT.

Many who were disappointed in not hearing music in Golden Gate Park yesterday made up what they lost by visiting the Mechanic's Pavilion and American Band. The attendance was unusually large, the music charming, and the pictures which were thrown on the large screen above the musicians to illustrate several of the numbers were appropriate and in every instance shown at precisely the right moment. Rencovieri's idea of music and pictures has taken the fancy of the people, as is evinced by the increased nightly attendance. Another excellent programme to-night.

ALONG THE WATER FRONT.

The ship Ellwell arrived from Nanaimo yesterday afternoon, having made the round trip in nineteen days. The Arvan was towed from Harrison street to Stewart and the Laurelbank from the gas works to the pier.

OBJECTIONS TO KISSING.

Actress Dismissed in Consequence, and Europe is Disturbed.

A strange tumult is raging on the Continent. It has been agitating Vienna and setting Berlin by the ears, and now it has spread to England. And it all arose from a mere trifle—the kissing of an actress on a stage. In the course of a play it became necessary for a certain actor to repeatedly embrace a certain actress. The actress had a husband. The husband objected.

So the actress refused to be kissed, and was, in consequence, dismissed from the theater. Hence tears, recriminations and tremendous controversies on kissing.

Those who have acted much will probably agree in thinking that to object to a stage kiss is absurd. It means nothing, and therefore is nothing, for things are greatly what we create them by the thoughts which we connect with them.

To one person a kiss is an epoch; to another merely a bore. The first kiss of the lover is an episode never to be forgotten by the girl. In the case of others it has been written upon it by lady novelists. When Faust kisses Marguerite we feel that the first word of a great tragedy has been written.

A refined girl thinks a kiss an intense intimacy, intolerably insulting, unless made beautiful by a certain train of feeling that prompts it.

But when we come to the lower classes we find kissing a sort of universal habit, almost like eating, or getting up in the morning.

The coster girl, beneath her waving ostrich plumes, is kissed by all and sundry in the public places. It is a habit of the hand. She is not necessarily at all immoral, though doubtless Mrs. Grundy regards her with a pious horror.

That kissing was indulged in freely in former times by very respectable young people we learn from many sources; for instance, from the charming old song that our young girls are so fond of singing, "Come, lasses and lads."

They positively reels at the thought of the amount of osculation that must have taken place. And yet which of us sitting at a concert and listening to the account of it all is shocked?

Oh! ladies, they think and think pleasantly of their youth, when, by the way, they never sat in arbor and did such things. Decidedly there is something ingratiating about the kiss.

ANGER OF FRANCE.

She Sends a Passport to the Representative of Venezuela.

RUPTURE OF RELATIONS.

Columbian Rebels Attack Boca del Toro, but Meet With Defeat.

THE ATLANTA LANDS MARINES.

Protection Given by the Cruiser's Men to the Interests of Americans.

PARIS, March 10.—As an outcome of the trouble between Venezuela and France, growing out of the former's action in handing his passport to the French representative at Caracas, the French Government has sent a passport to Dr. J. Gilfortou, the Venezuelan charge d'affaires.

THE COLUMBIA REVOLUTION.

Cruiser Atlanta Lands Marines to Protect American Interests.

COLON, March 10.—The rebel forces under the command of Reiz Garcia made an attack on Boca del Toro, about 100 miles north of this city, on Friday last, but were repulsed by the Government troops. An attempt was made to set fire to the town, but this was also defeated. Eleven of the rebels, including Garcia, were killed. The Government loss was five killed and twenty wounded.

The United States steamship Atlanta landed a force of sailors and marines to protect American interests.

DEFEAT OF CUBAN INSURGENTS.

Government Troops Attack Them and Inflict Heavy Loss.

MADRID, March 10.—Dispatches received here from Cuba state that after their defeat by the Government troops at Baire and Los Negros the rebels occupied new positions, in which the Government troops again attacked and dispersed them, inflicting heavy loss.

MORE JAPANESE VICTORIES.

Capture of Coast Forts and Rout of a Chinese Army.

YOKOHAMA, March 10.—On Thursday last the Japanese captured the coast forts near Yinkow, the port for New Chang. The forts held out after the capture of Yinkow. On Saturday the first division of the Japanese attacked a force of 10,000 Chinese under General Sung Thien Wang Twai. For four hours a fierce battle waged, but the Chinese were defeated after losing 2000 killed or wounded. The Japanese loss was only ninety killed or wounded.

GENERAL NODZU, WHO SUCCEEDED FIELD MARSHAL YAMAGATA IN THE COMMAND OF THE FIRST JAPANESE ARMY, HAS BEEN PROMOTED.

NEW YORK, March 10.—A cablegram to the World, dated Tokyo, Japan, March 10, says: China has been informed in general terms of the conditions upon which Japan will consent to peace. Japan has been notified that China is ready to accept these conditions and to sign a treaty. The correspondence by means of which this agreement was arrived at was carried on through the United States Ministers to the two countries; Minister Dun at Tokio and Minister Charles Denby at Peking.

DID NOT FIRE ON AN AMERICAN SHIP.

MANAGUA, March 10.—Officials of the British legation state there is absolutely no truth in the reports of the firing on an American vessel by a British ship.

DEBT OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE FINANCIAL SALVATION LIES IN UNION WITH THE DOMINION.

ENGLAND IS WATCHING THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MUCH INTEREST.

LONDON, March 11.—The Times, in an article on Newfoundland, says that the negotiations looking to a union with Canada will be followed here with sympathetic interest. Canada can assume the responsibility for Newfoundland's debt without creating the awkward precedent that Great Britain would create by similar action. To enter the Dominion is a step forward both in power and in importance which Newfoundland would have been well advised to have known in the days of her greatest prosperity. Now she is to be congratulated if such a way should be opened out of her misfortunes.

The details of the French question can be discussed when Canada's readiness to federate shall be assured. In view of the probability of the elections changing the Government of Canada the Newfoundland authorities would be unquestionably wise not to lose time in completing the negotiations.

THE ENGLISH MARKET.

A Plethoric Condition Exists in the London Money Market.

LONDON, March 10.—The money market last week relaxed into its former plethoric condition. The Rothschilds' Chilean issue was fully covered within two hours. Any amount of money was obtained at 1-16 per cent. The Canadian Pacific collapse had a demoralizing effect and drove all business in the direction of gilt-edged securities and the mining market, where another boom seems to have commenced. Buying orders poured in from the Continent and immense blocks of the shares of South American ventures were easily placed by syndicates in Paris at a profit. Foreign securities remained firm in anticipation of the Rothschilds carrying through the conversion into 3 1/2 per cent of £21,000,000 of the Chilean 4's.

Home railway securities were quiet, but traffic reports and Board of Trade returns being unpromising. Mexican and all South American securities, except Chileans, were weak. Canadian Pacific fell ten points, and although a rumor that the Dominion was about to issue a new loan was denied, Canadian Pacific remained very weak.

American railroad securities were also in the worst condition. Heavy sales from Wall street and rumors of reduced dividends depressed the market all around.

THE EUROPEAN COTTON TRADE.

MANCHESTER, March 10.—There was a

considerable increase in the activity of the cotton market last week, the stiffness in the prices of cotton inducing holders of discretionary orders to press in the best possible manner. Prices generally hardened. Business was well distributed over Indian, Chinese and Korean markets, and there were moderate sales at South America and other minor markets. The home market continued fair. Yarns were firm, with considerable forward business. Strikes are now considered impossible, owing to the want of unity among the master spinners. The Continental cotton trade is active and healthy.

THE SASSOUN MASSACRE.

Surviving Armenians Corroborate the Story of the Butchery.

LONDON, March 10.—A dispatch from Moosh to the Telegraph says that a deputation of survivors of the Sassoun massacres in Armenia appeared before the commission and narrated the whole story of the butchery. Their statements fully corroborated the worst details that were published. The evidence made a powerful impression on the commission.

Other dispatches to the Telegraph, declare that 600 eye-witnesses, who have been examined, all deny that the Armenians provoked the Sassoun massacres and exonerates the Kurds from the brutalities.

LAUNCH OF THE Czar's NEW YACHT.

COPENHAGEN, March 10.—The new Russian imperial yacht Standard, which is building here, was launched to-day in the presence of the King and Queen of Denmark and other members of the royal family.

RUMORS OF MORE ARMENIAN DISASTERS.

LONDON, March 11.—A special to the Standard from Constantinople says that unconfirmed rumors are current of fresh disorders at Kharasir, in the valley of Sivas.

IMPORT OF FIGURE HEADS.

HEROIC OR DEIFIED ORNAMENTS OF ANCIENT MARINE ARCHITECTURE.

THE GRECIAN WARRIOR UNDER THE BOWSPRIT OF THE SPARTAN.

The principal and prettiest ornament of that graceful and beautiful fabric, a ship, is the figurehead—that always noble piece of carving on the bow just under the sprit. It may be the grand front of the eagle, the

lion, a hero, a god, or merely flowing lines of artistic beauty falling away from the upper tip of the stem, as in the "middle-head" often seen on ships.

The majestic place of the figure on the front of the vessel's hull, as it is further clothes it in the attributes of the heroic and endows it apparently with something apart from the base material of its construction. Always looking ahead with gaze inexorable over the inscrutable mysteries of the sea one would feign such voiceless, lifeless sphinx of the ocean what it sees beyond the round rim of the watery world, but no answer ever comes from the immovable lips, and the noble face forever is turned toward the point of its seeming longings.

The figurehead arose to its commanding position on the vessel's prow far back in the dim dawn of marine architecture, thirty centuries before Christ. The prehistoric galley, feeling its way across the unknown seas, was guided and guarded by the tutelary divinity of the early sailor, and the god's head or figure adorned the head or beak of the rude craft. The capture of this sacred ornament was one of the objects of the foe, and on the return of a conquering fleet the beaks of hostile craft were carried as trophies in triumphal processions.

On modern shipboard the figurehead is still an object of significance and veneration, for the old, old traditions are never so strong in the human soul as they are in that of the sailor. The deep and dreadful mysticism of the sea wraps him around as with a garment, and he lives always in the environments of the supernatural.

The figurehead of the ship Spartan, on this port, is a noble form of the old Grecian warrior that filled the phalanxes of the brave, and for which is still the theme of heroic song and story. Even in the rudely carved face are the lines of the indomitable courage that swept the scourging squadrons of Athens' barbarian foemen from the seas.

TYPICAL AMERICAN FACE.

It may be worth while to add that once when I said, "How unlike each other are our American faces, yet how quickly we recognize any one of them among European faces?—I wish I knew why," a foreign friend replied that she could tell me why. "The typical American mouth," she said, "is more sensitive than that of other races and the chin is slender, but the main peculiarities are the shape and setting of the eyes, and especially the modeling of the cheekbones."

"You have high cheekbones, but they are narrow, while when they are high in other races they are broad and flat, as with the Japanese, or square, as with the Scandinavians."

I am afraid that she thought we'd looked a little foxy, but a fox's face has beauty, and shows a keen sense of humor, as well as its own sense of cleverness, and besides she does not know that it is merely a mask.

A COUGH NEEDS QUICK AND EFFECTIVE TREATMENT.

R. Bull's Cough Syrup furnishes this.

STATE AND CHURCH.

Mgr. Satolli Gives His Views on the Subject to Guatemala.

PLEA FOR CONCESSIONS.

Desires Changes in the Laws That Militate Against the Church.

SEEKS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

Intercedes for the Pope in the Matter of Having a Minister at the Vatican.

NEW YORK, March 10.—An interesting and important communication from Mgr. Satolli to the officials of Guatemala concerning that country's following the course of Nicaragua in sending to Rome an envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, has been made public. In the course of the document reference is made to the propriety, under the United States constitution, of official relations between Washington and Rome, and an interpretation given to that feature of the constitution relative to the separation of church and state.

Mgr. Satolli's letter was written while negotiations were pending about four months ago. It refers at length to the difficulties in church administration in Guatemala, and suggests that certain changes desired by the Government should be accompanied by concessions to render less burdensome the condition of the church in Guatemala. The document says:

In the first place allow me to reflect that to re-establish diplomatic relations between the Holy See and your Government a concordat would not be necessary, but that they could be re-established and maintained without it. Besides, it is well to reflect that the holy father enjoys always, in fact and by international right, the prerogatives of sovereignty. Hence in the second place, the separation between the church and the state (sanctioned by the constitution) excluded the action of one power

over another in civil matters in regard to the church, and in religious matters in respect to the state, but does not exclude official relations between the one power and the other, unless by separation is meant the inevitable hostility or open wrong of the civil power toward the church and its ministry. It is a point to consider that all nations (although some may have in their constitution the principle of separation between state and church) maintain, nevertheless, amicable reports and relations with the Holy See, and I can also add that although the Holy See has no diplomatic representation with the empire of China and Japan it has certainly found no official obstacle in their diversity of religion.

And the condition of the Catholic church in the United States, in whose constitution was incorporated the article of the separation of state from every religious sect, cannot escape our consideration. I might almost say in a sense of surprise that if up to date no official relations exist between the Government and the Holy See, and although the majority of the population is anti-Catholic, in the meantime the church is maintaining possible greater development and liberty than in other States.

Besides this direct reference to the United States, it is said Mgr. Satolli's attitude as to the propriety of relations between Guatemala and Rome applies also to the United States, as he states the constitutional provision of both countries is the same respecting church and state. As to the concern of the Pope for the church in Central America the document says:

I am happy to state that the holy father with much pleasure learns that the ancient violent prejudices and oppositions to the church are daily disappearing. Moreover, I must assure you of the lively concern of His Holiness to see the condition of the Catholic church in your State, the great importance of which in Central America is well known, improved. Therefore the holy father regards as of the greatest importance, religious and civil, the good existence of friendly relations, and he is not averse to making all such concessions as may be compatible with the doctrine of the church, to the welfare of the faithful and the prosperity of your country. And, therefore, his Holiness consents to proceed to the nomination of an apostolic administrator to the See of Guatemala, who, going a stranger to every faction and without personal preoccupation, should put in order the religious affairs of the vast archdiocese. The apostolic administrator should be a European, selected from among notable prelates or monks and of tried piety and prudence. Being such, he should more readily succeed in his difficult mission.

Speaking of the desirability of rendering less burdensome the condition of the church in Guatemala Monsignor Satolli says:

Propos of which allow me to recall to your consideration the numerous decrees issued from the 12th of December, 1871, up to 1884, and other dispositions up to 1887—decrees and dispositions of law more or less gravely prejudicial to the religious liberty which the church by divine right and, almost, I might say, by right of mankind traditional for centuries, has possessed everywhere; decrees and laws that with mature examination must be recognized

as exceptional, possibly accounted for by temporary circumstances, or, that the Government might secure itself against supposed adversities, among which, unfortunately, the Catholic church in Guatemala in those times was believed to be, because otherwise it would be impossible to understand how such decrees and laws accord with the separation of the church from the state, honestly and rationally considered. And therefore with the constitution so established as to be immutable itself in the republic of Guatemala, it will not be difficult to become convinced that the laws and decrees referred to above should be at least modified, or that in the matter of these laws and decrees, there should be some amicable adjustment with the Holy See. The constitution and the Government would thus receive a most desired seal and guarantee for the future through the desired agreement between the Government and the Holy See, an agreement that harmonized so excellently with the declared separation between church and state and that would bring peace to the souls of the population of Guatemala.

ADVENTURES OF A BELL.

In a Church Steeple, Then Buried in the River; Now Is in Mormondom.

There is a bell now hanging over a private schoolhouse of a Mormon prophet, in Salt Lake City, which has a curious and somewhat amusing history. It was the first church bell that ever rang out over the plains of Iowa, having been erected in the tower of the First Presbyterian Church of Iowa City.

A few years after its installation a trouble arose between the pastor and the people over the question of salary, which resulted in the former's making an attempt to capture and carry away the bell to "square accounts." The good man had gone so far as to secure a ladder and ascend to the roof of the church, when the church officials got wind of the affair and rushed to the rescue of their property. They permitted the bell to be lowered to the ground, but then seized upon it, loaded it in a wagon and drove away. The ladder was also simultaneously removed, leaving the enraged person wildly gesticulating from his pulpit in the tower. This exciting event in the early history of Iowa City was promptly embalmed in verse by a local poet.

The subsequent history of this same bell has a touch of romance about it. The "pillars" of the church, who took away the prize in the wagon, carried it, as afterward appeared, to a river near at hand and buried it in the channel. As it happened, one of the citizens concerned in the business afterward developed a sympathy with the Mormons. He imparted information concerning the bell to another of like sympathies, and through them its removal was effected. It was conveyed secretly to the vicinity of Bloomington—now Muscatine—on the banks of the Mississippi River, and there deposited in the channel of a stream known as Devil's Creek. Thence it was carried to a point near Montrose, Ill., where it remained for some years buried in the sand. It was then ex-

humed and carried by some Mormons to Kanesville, in the neighborhood of Council Bluffs, from which point it was conveyed by them in their journey across the plains to its present resting-place.

"It was not until twenty years after that the original possessors of the bell found out where it had gone. Upon the completion of the Pacific Railway some parties from Iowa City, in their journey across the continent, stopped off at Salt Lake City. There they discovered an old bell surmounting a private schoolhouse, and upon its margin the familiar words, 'First Presbyterian Church of Iowa City, 1846.' Notice of the fact was promptly communicated to the officers of the Iowa City Church. Correspondence was opened with the Mormon authorities, but so high was the value placed upon it as a spoil taken from the Gentiles, that, strangely enough, it was decided to let the old bell remain a voiceless trophy in the far-off land of its captivity."—Providence Journal.

SMOKER'S CRAMP.

It Affects Those Who Roll Cigarettes and Has Appeared in Europe.

A new disease has appeared in Europe, which has been styled smoker's cramp. It is very similar in its effects to writer's cramp or scrivener's palsy.

The disease is caused by rolling cigarettes with one hand. For many years it has been common in Spain, although some smokers are so expert as to make a cigarette with a single twist of the fingers.

Since a law was recently passed in France permitting the manufacture of hand-made cigarettes large numbers of girls have been employed in rolling cigarettes by hand. It is among them that the disease has appeared.

In Spain, however, it is not confined to the cigarette girls, but it is a common ailment among the rest of the population who indulge in the fragrant but baneful papillo.

BATTLE FLAGS REMOVED.

Doric Hall Emblems Laid Away for an Indefinite Period.

The group of old battle flags which for almost thirty years have been the center of veneration in Doric Hall at the State house were last week removed. When they will be again displayed is uncertain. The work of removing them began early in the week under the direction of the sergeant-at-arms.

Each color was carefully wrapped in big sheets of paper and laid away. It is believed that portion of the State house is to be rebuilt. The colors were placed in Doric Hall in 1866, just after the close of the war. In 1886, after part of them had fallen from their positions, they were rearranged.

OPENING.

To-day and To-morrow, March 11 and 12, I will make a Special Exhibit of French Pattern Bonnets and Hats.

AND—LATEST NOVELTIES IN MILLINERY.

P. F. BUTLER,

808 MARKET STREET, PHELAN BUILDING.

ORIZABA IN ERUPTION.

Portions of Old Mexico Endangered by the Volcano.

INHABITANTS IN TERROR.

The Alarm Is General in the Cities of Cordoba, Orizaba and Kalapa.

THE BEST LANDS AFFECTED.

An Epidemic of Earthquakes Expected by the People, Who Are Praying.

CORDOBA, State of Vera Cruz, Mexico, March 10.—The peak of Orizaba, an ancient volcano, is in a state of eruption. The signs of disturbance began to manifest themselves last Sunday night and have increased in force constantly since that time. It is now vomiting poisonous ashes, and thick volumes of smoke are emitted from a hundred apertures in its great maw. The earth for 100 miles around is shaken perceptibly with subterranean vibrations.

A great alarm exists among the dwellers in the cities of Cordoba, Orizaba, Kalapa, and the dozens of small villages scattered within the scope of the strange and interesting phenomenon.

The shocks as yet have not been of a serious nature and no damage from them has been reported.

The rim of the crater glows like fire and the thick ashes rolling down the mountain sides have set aflame the grass and vegetation clothing the sides of the summit, which adds to the density of the smoke and the grandeur of the spectacle.

For the public safety the Governor of the State of Vera Cruz will shortly name a commission of scientists to make all the investigation into the eruption possible and to make recommendations looking to the protection of the inhabitants of the neighboring villages.

The present eruption is in the heart of the best improved land in Mexico. The coffee plantations are not as yet thought to be in danger, nor will they unless a fall of thick ashes occur, which is not considered probable.

Masses are being said in all the churches of the locality to ward off the impending danger. Coming soon after the late destructive volcanic activities in many parts of the republic the eruption of Orizaba has many terrors, not only to the people in its vicinity, but to all living in the great volcanic belt of Mexico, stretching from the active volcano of Colima on the west coast (an unusual eruption), clear to the Gulf of Mexico on the east. Within this belt are numbered dozens of old craters, either in repose or smoking constantly. It is natural to suppose that should the eruptions continue the other volcanoes will be affected and a general earthquake period set in. The consequence of such a catastrophe are hard to tell, but could hardly be anything less than very disastrous to Puebla, Mexico City and the hundreds of other towns in the